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NEWSLETTER OF THE LONDON CHAPTER,
ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

c/o London Museum of Archaeology
1600 Attawandaron Road, London, ON N6G 3M6

April 2006 06-4

There is no Speaker for the month of December, instead come join us for the **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY**! It will be held at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology **Thursday December 14/06**. Festivities will begin around 7:15 PM. Refreshments and some snacks will be provided (but please feel free to bring your own). *We hope to see you there*!! Remember, while imbibing, we also nominate and select/elect a new Executive for the coming year. So come on out and help determine the Chapter's future!

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The next **Speaker Night** is **Thursday January 11th, 2007**. The speaker will be **Christine Boston**, of the Department of Anthropology, UWO. She will speak on her research in Chile in a presentation entitled: ***Los Chinchorros, Arsenic, and the Worlds's Oldest Mummies.*** So plan on attending what will surely be a trip to a very exotic destination!

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The meeting will be held at 8 pm at the London Museum of Archaeology, 1600 Attawandaron Road, near the corner of Wonderland & Fanshawe Park Road, in the northwest part of the city.

Chapter Executive

ANNUAL RATES

Student	$15.00
Individual	$18.00
Institutional	$21.00
Subscriber	$20.00

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SOME (MORE) PALEO-INDIAN POINTS FROM SOUTHERN ONTARIO

James T. Sherratt, Dana R. Poulton, Parker S. Dickson and Chris Ellis

INTRODUCTION

Following in the footsteps of several earlier researchers (e.g. Deller and Ellis 1992a; Garrad 1971; Kidd 1951), including a whole Kewa issue (00[6]), this article is intended to contribute to the published literature on Paleo-Indian points from southern Ontario. In the Kewa issue, several fluted points from Middlesex County were described in terms of their morphological and metrical attributes and the raw material sources employed. This paper reports similar data related to four Paleo-Indian points recovered during fieldwork by D.R. Poulton & Associates Inc. (DPA).

The sample includes three fluted points (two Barnes and one incomplete form of probable Gainey type) and what is either a lanceolate unfluted (Holcombe or Hi-Ho type) point or a preform for a fluted point. These points were recovered from four separate projects between 1996 and 2004. Two of the points represent isolated find spots (DPA 2004, 2005), one is from the multi-component Prism 57 site (AfHa-249; DPA 2003) and the other site is a single component camp site called the Gosling site (AiHb-189; DPA 1998). More comprehensive site descriptions are presented in the relevant license reports (DPA 1998, 2003, 2004, 2005). One of the isolated finds (Hanlon Creek 12a) and the Gosling site have both yielded Barnes points.

Each of the finds share a common characteristic in that they were recovered from interior regions as opposed to the more common sites on fossil beach ridges (Figure 1). The two Barnes type points were found in Wellington County and the probable Crowfield type point in Haldimand-Norfolk County. Finally, the lanceolate point was found in Ontario County, just north of the pro-glacial Lake Iroquois Shoreline, although that shoreline predates fluted point times. The geographic information provided varies for each point, as does the general context based on the level of investigations that were conducted for each site.

HANLON CREEK 12a & b (AiHb-294)

History of Investigations

Hanlon Creek 12a was found on November 3, 2003. This site is located in the proposed Hanlon Creek Business Park, on the south edge of the City of Guelph. It is situated in an agricultural field. Hanlon Creek 12a was identified based on the presence of a diagnostic projectile point of the Barnes type (Figure 2 C-D) (D.R. Poulton & Associates 2004). Points of this type are attributed to the Early Paleo-Indian Parkhill Phase, *ca.* 10,700 BP (Ellis and Deller 1990:39).

Location/Environment

The Barnes type point from Hanlon Creek 12a was located approximately 652 metres east of Downey Road and 540 metres north of Laird Road. It can be noted that a lithic scatter (Hanlon

Creek 12b) was located approximately 60 metres southwest of the Hanlon Creek 12a site; it is situated in Concession 5, Geographic Township of Puslinch.

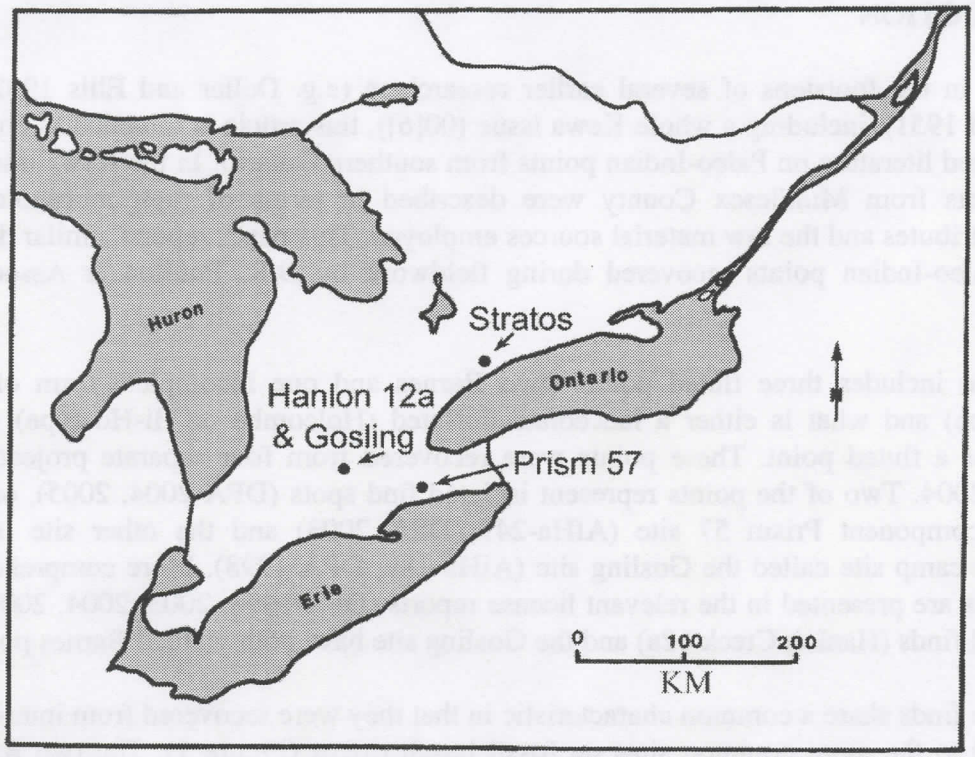

Figure 1: Paleoindian Sites and Findspots.

Hanlon Creek 12a is located on Gilford Loam soils. These soils consist of loam over coarse gravel. An extensive wetland associated with the Gilford Loam soils is located immediately to the south and west of the site. This deposit is surrounded by an extensive deposit of Burford loam. The Gilford Loam deposit forms part of the Hanlon Creek drainage system.

The Speed River, a major tributary of the Grand River, is located west of the proposed development containing this site. At the nearest point, the Speed River is approximately two and a half kilometres to the west of the site. A tributary of Hanlon Creek transects the property; it is associated with wetlands in the central portion of the proposed development. Hanlon Creek, a tributary of Speed River is located approximately 0.5 kilometres to the north of the site. In addition, several small kettle lakes are located approximately one kilometre to the east of the site. The nearest waterway to the south is Aberfoyle Creek, which at its closest point is 5.0 kilometres away.

The basic topography of the area surrounding the site includes level and gently rolling terrain incised by minor wetlands associated with the tributary of Hanlon Creek. The site is located in the Guelph Drumlin Field physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam 1984:137). This region occupies an area of 320 square miles, centring upon the City of Guelph and Guelph Township, lying to the northwest of the Paris Moraine. The Guelph drumlin field contains a series of

approximately 300 drumlins separated by large swampy spillways. The drumlins are spaced out with intervening low ground. The till is loamy and calcareous, and is derived mostly from dolostone of the Amabel Formation (Chapman and Putnam 1984:137).

Artifact Description

The point from the Hanlon Creek 12a is of Onondaga chert. It is a good example of the Barnes type, which is diagnostic of the Parkhill Phase or Complex in Ontario (Roosa 1965, 1977). The base of the point is fishtailed in form, the basal concavity forms a simple arc, and the lateral edges expand moderately from the base having a face-angle (see Deller and Ellis 1992a) at each corner of 97 and 99° or averaging 98°. All of these are Barnes point characteristics.

The projectile point is medium in size with an incomplete length and width of 35.0mm and 25.2mm, respectively. The basal width of the specimen is 18.0 mm and the depth of the basal cavity is 4.7mm. It is evident that the maximum width would have been at or near the break that forms the distal margin. This suggests that the projectile point was broken near the midpoint of the length, as the maximum width on Barnes points occurs around the midpoint on specimens where tip resharpening has been carried out, or just below the midpoint on unsharpened examples. Based on this inference, the maximum thickness of the projectile point may have been somewhat greater than the measured maximum thickness of 5.3mm, had the projectile point been complete. In general, Deller and Ellis (1992a) describe Barnes points as ranging in size from 35 - 105mm in length, 15 – 27mm in maximum width, 4 - 8mm in thickness, 14 - 20mm in basal width and with a moderately deep basal concavity ranging between 2 and 6mm. In short, the point falls well within the Barnes range in every measure.

Both faces feature single long flutes that extend beyond the break; this single fluting is also typical of the Barnes type. Over the base of the point on both faces a short, broad flake has been removed over these main flutes, a technique that Roosa (1965:97) calls "Barnes finishing", although this technique is not restricted to points of the Barnes type. In removing these basal finishing flakes, the terminations extended slightly more up the side edges or ridges left by the main flute removals such that the termination edge appears almost u-shaped. A comparable pattern of termination has been noted on Barnes points at other sites, notably at Thedford II (e.g. Deller and Ellis 1992a: Figure 21a, 21b).

Evaluation of Significance

Hanlon Creek 12a consists of an isolated find spot represented by a basal portion of a Barnes type point. The site may represent a point lost during transport or use. Alternatively, the point may relate to the Hanlon Creek 12b, a small camp located 60 metres southwest of Hanlon Creek 12a. Further, Hanlon Creek 12a is one of two EPI Parkhill Phase sites/findspots in the Hanlon Creek Drainage, as the Gosling site (see below), a small EPI Parkhill Phase hunting and processing camp, is located less than one kilometre east of Hanlon Creek 12a.

GOSLING SITE (AiHb-189)

History of Investigations

The Gosling site was discovered on May 8, 1996 during the pedestrian survey of a ploughed field at a five metre interval. A Stage 3 controlled surface collection of the site was conducted on

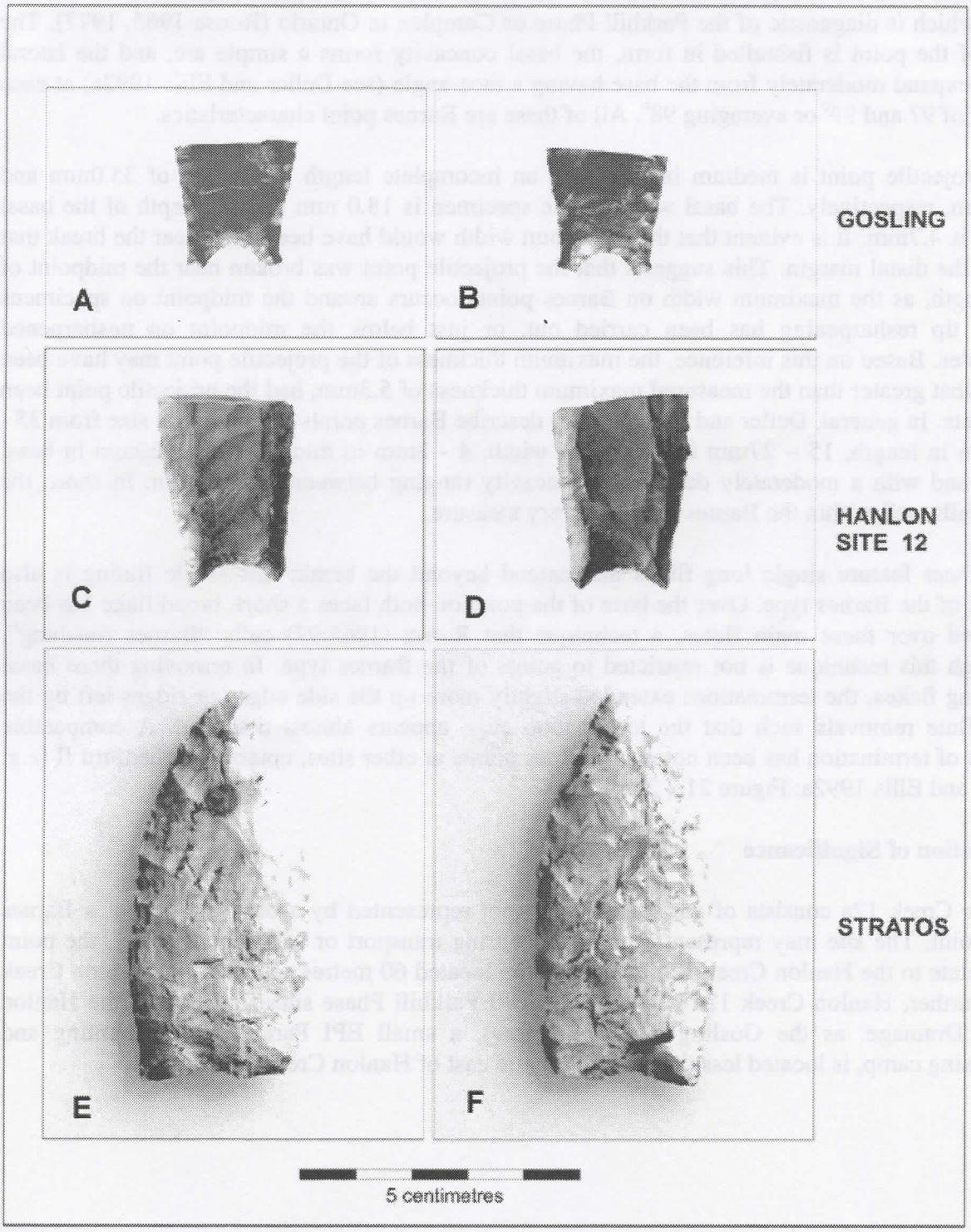

Figure 2: Paleoindian Points

May 13, 1996. The Stage 3 surface collection resulted in the recovery of 17 chipped stone artifacts consisting of pieces of chipping detritus (7 shatter, 3 fragments, a secondary decortification flake and a biface thinning flake), an end scraper, a side scraper, a narrow end scraper, a bipolar wedge (*pièce esquillée)* and a utilized flake. The Barnes type point (Figure 2A-B) was recovered during Stage 4 investigations of the Gosling site (D.R. Poulton & Associates 2001). Six other chipped stone artifacts were recovered during the Stage 4 investigations; they included a biface fragment, a side scraper and three pieces of chipping detritus (DPA 1998). All of these items are on Onondaga chert.

Location/Environment

The Gosling site was originally designated the Clairfields #28 site (DPA 1996). It is located in the northwest corner of the Clairfields subdivision property, approximately 570 metres north of Clair Road and 20 metres east of the western boundary of the property. The site is located in Concession 7, Geographic Township of Puslinch. It was located on flat tableland that is now part of a residential subdivision.

The Gosling site is situated on a narrow band of Dumfries soils, which consist of a stony sandy loam (Hoffman and Mathews 1963). This deposit is bounded immediately to the east by an extensive deposit of Burford loam and to the west and north by muck soils. An extensive wetland associated with the muck soils is located immediately to the north and west of the site: it forms part of the Hanlon Creek drainage system. Portions of the wetland form part of the Hanlon Creek Conservation Area.

The basic topography of the area surrounding the site includes level and gently rolling terrain incised by minor wetlands associated with the tributary of Hanlon Creek. The site is located in the Guelph Drumlin Field physiographic region. The Guelph Drumlin Field consists of widely spaced drumlins fringed by gravel terraces, and separated by swampy valleys containing sluggish streams (Chapman and Putnam 1984:138).

Artifact Description

In terms of both continuous and discontinuous traits, the Gosling point is also a classic example of the Barnes type (Roosa 1965) as it matches in every respect the discrete characteristics and measurements in the published descriptions. This specimen is made on high quality Onondaga chert. The base of the point is fishtailed in form. It is medium in size, with an incomplete length and width of 22.6mm and 22mm, respectively. The lateral edges are expanding from the base, with a face-angle of 97 and 98° at each basal corner or a 97.5° average for the point. It is evident that the maximum width would have been somewhat beyond the break that forms the distal margin. This positioning suggests that the point was broken somewhat below the midpoint of the length since, as noted above, maximum width is at or above midpoint on bifaces of the Barnes type. Based on this inference, the maximum thickness of the point probably also would have been somewhat greater than the measured maximum thickness of 4.4mm, had the point been complete.

As is characteristic of Barnes points, the basal width is narrow, being only 17mm, the depth of the basal concavity is a moderate at 3.6mm and the concavity forms a simple arc in plan outline. Both faces feature single long flutes that extend beyond the break. On one face, the base is finished by the Barnes technique noted above where a broad flake was removed over the base of the flute scar: this flake has a maximum width of 12.5mm at 10 mm above the base, then narrows to a width of 2mm and continues up one edge of the flute for a further 4.3mm in a manner comparable to the finishing flake removals noted on the Hanlon 12a and other Barnes points. The other face has the same treatment. The finishing flake that covers the base of the flute scar on that face also has a maximum width of 12.5 mm then narrows to a width of 3mm and continues up one edge of the primary flute scar, for an additional 8.4mm.

Evaluation of Significance

The Gosling site is a small Parkhill Phase campsite based on the analysis of the cultural remains, including the recovery of a basal portion of a Barnes type point. The other tools recovered from the site are typical Paleoindian ones, suggesting it is a single component campsite. Gosling is one of two EPI Parkhill Phase sites in the Hanlon Creek drainage. As previously described, Hanlon Creek 12a is located less than one kilometre west of the Gosling site.

PRISM SITE 57 (AfHa-249)

History of Investigations

Prism site 57 was discovered on April 11, 2002 during the course of the Stage 2 pedestrian survey of the Imperial Oil Limited Prism pipeline corridor. The site was found in an initial examination of the exposed ground surface. The surface examination revealed a large and extensive prehistoric lithic scatter.

The initial controlled surface collection of Prism site 57 was conducted on April 17, 2002. It resulted in the collection of 447 stations. Taken together, these stations yielded 1219 artifacts, including: one bifurcate base projectile point, 10 bifaces, 11 cores, seven scrapers, two spokeshaves, five utilized flakes and 1183 pieces of debitage. The results of the initial controlled surface collection showed that Prism site 57 was multicomponent and that it was a potentially significant archaeological resource and planning concern. In order to better assess the site, Stage 3 test excavations were conducted.

The initial test excavations of Site 57 were carried out on June 11-15, 2002. The first step was to establish a grid to encompass the prehistoric lithic scatters plotted by the initial controlled surface collection. A series of 54 one-metre square units was then excavated in a checkerboard pattern at a five-metre interval over the site area. In all, 2404 prehistoric artifacts were recovered, including: one fluted projectile point (Figure 3), six bifaces, 11 cores, 12 scrapers, one spokeshave, 38 utilized flakes and 2355 pieces of debitage (D.R. Poulton & Associates 2003).

Location/Environment

Prism site 57 is located just over one kilometre southeast of Hagersville, on Concession 12 of the Township of Walpole, County of Haldimand. It is in an agricultural field, on the south side of Stoney Creek. The site is situated at an elevation of 184 metres a.s.l.

The basic topography of the area surrounding the site is level terrain incised by minor wetlands associated with the tributary of Stoney Creek. PRISM site 57 is located within the Haldimand Clay Plain, which lies between the Niagara Escarpment and Lake Erie (Chapman and Putnam 1984:156). The Haldimand Clay Plain encompasses an area of approximately 850 square kilometres. Chapman and Putnam (1984:157) describe the characteristic features of Haldimand clay loam as a heavy texture and being poorly drained.

The site is situated on a complex of Lincoln and Haldimand soils classed as lacustrine heavy clay. The topography ranges from level to gently sloping and drainage is imperfect to poorly drained (Presant and Acton 1984:38-41). The texture of Lincoln and Haldimand soils range from silty clay to silty clay loam.

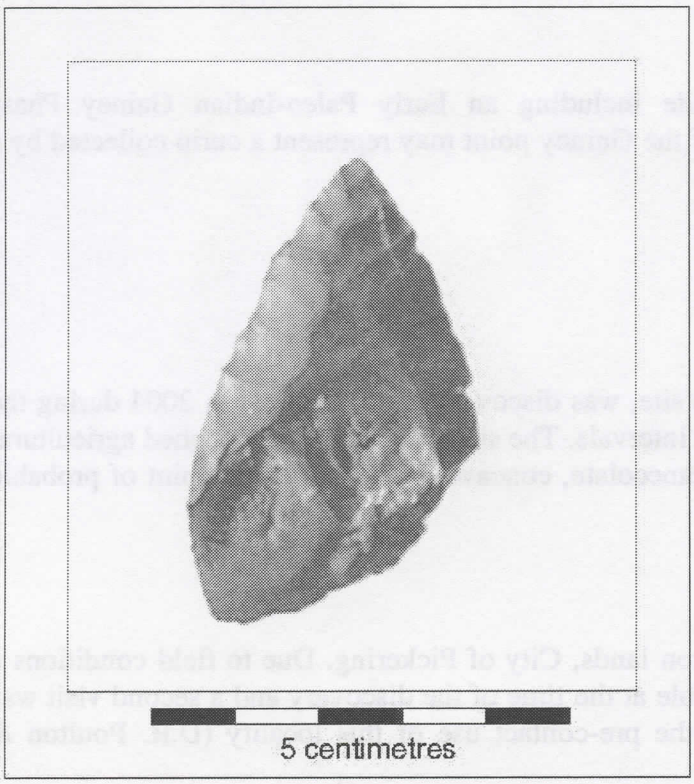

Figure 3: Prism Site 57 Fluted Point Tip

Artifact Description

The fluted point from the Prism site 57 seems best assignable to the Gainey type although it is fragmentary, consisting only of a tip segment (Figure 3). Gainey projectile points date to the Early Paleo-Indian tradition of southwestern Ontario, *ca.* 11,000 BP (Ellis and Deller 1990). They are thick and wide points with relatively parallel-sided lateral edges (Ellis and Deller 1990). Ellis (1984a; see also Deller and Ellis 1992a) describes Gainey points as ranging in size from 50-95mm in length mean 68.4), 20-37 mm in width (mean 26.9), 6-8.5 mm in thickness (mean 7.6) and 19 to 32 in basal width (mean 26.1). Basal concavities tend to be deep (2-8.5; mean 4.9).

The Prism site 57 example is made on a high quality, imported chert that could not be identified. In cross-section, the specimen is bi-convex. Incomplete measurements are 55.3mm in length, 34.5mm in width and 7.5mm in thickness. The segment is to short to determine the outline form of the side edges. However, the point is much too wide to

be of the Barnes type and as such must either be from a Gainey point or a Crowfield point as they are the only forms with widths over 27mm (Deller and Ellis 1992a). While most Ontario Gainey points are under 30 mm wide, this size is apparently controlled to some extent by raw material size with examples on exotic cherts such as Upper Mercer, Ohio often larger and much wider than those on other raw materials (see Simons et al. 1984). Given that the present point is 7.5mm+ thick, it is much more likely to be of the Gainey type, as Crowfield points never exceed 5.5 mm in thickness. Although incomplete, fluting scars are visible on opposite surfaces, indicating each face was fluted to very near the tip. The one face retains a 16.5mm long scar, while the flute scar on the obverse surface has a minimum length of 9.3mm.

Post-production thermal alteration has occurred as evidenced by the presence of pot lid fractures and external surface colour change (Deller and Ellis 1984; Pavlish and Sheppard 1983:793). In addition, the fracture configuration and subsequently the fragmentary nature of the piece infer extensive thermal treatment after manufacture. Pavlish and Sheppard (1983:793) state that heat crazing, cubical spalling and potlid fractures indicate a temperature of 700 to 800 degrees Celsius. Chert fired to this temperature range is rendered friable and unsuitable for proper flaking. In contrast, flaking properties are improved by heating to temperature between 450 and 500 degrees Celsius for varying periods of time.

Evaluation of Significance

Prism site 57 is a multi-component site including an Early Paleo-Indian Gainey Phase component. Alternatively, the inclusion of the Gainey point may represent a curio collected by a one of the later site occupants.

STRATOS (AlGs-281)

History of Investigations

This isolated point find, called the Stratos site, was discovered on December 9, 2004 during the course of a pedestrian survey at five metre intervals. The site is located in a ploughed agricultural field. It consists of the isolated find of a lanceolate, concave-based, projectile point of probable Paleoindian age.

Location/Environment

The site is located in Block C of the Seaton lands, City of Pickering. Due to field conditions a proper close interval survey was not possible at the time of the discovery and a second visit was required to determine the full extent of the pre-contact use of this locality (D.R. Poulton & Associates 2005).

The Stratos site is located on at the base of a small knoll near a relic stream course, on Milliken loam soils. These soils are a slightly stony calcareous brown loam developed from a medium textured calcareous till. These soils are moderately well drained to imperfectly drained. The topography is gently sloping to very gently sloping.

The basic topography of the area surrounding the site is gently rolling terrain incised by minor wetlands associated with the tributary of Ganatsekiagon Creek. The site is located north of the Lake Iroquois shoreline within the till plain of the South Slope physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam 1984:172). This physiographic region is the southern slope of the Oak Ridges Moraine, which slopes south towards Lake Ontario. It is characterized by a gently rolling to very gently rolling topography of Milliken or Woburn loam soils (Chapman and Putnam 1984:173, Olding et al. 1970:34).

Chapman and Putnam (1984) describe the South Slope as being 200 metres a.s.l. and extending from the Niagara Escarpment to the Trent River covering approximately 940 square miles. The central portion, in the Regional Municipality of Durham, is drumlinized. The drumlins are scattered and are the long, thin type pointing up the slope. The streams flow directly down the slope and have cut sharp valleys in the till (Chapman and Putnam 1984:172).

Artifact Description

The point from the Stratos site is lanceolate in form, with basal thinning rather than fluting, made on Collingwood or Fossil Hill chert (see Storck and von Bitter 1989). It has a maximum length, width and thickness of 70.5mm, 32mm and 8.0mm respectively. The maximum width is near the midpoint, there are small ears and a shallow basal concavity (3.5mm). The base has a maximum width of 26.5mm. The point has short basal thinning on each face and the ear at one corner has been broken off. The lateral edge at the other corner near the base seems to have only intermittent or light grinding. This grinding could be a result of platform preparation for subsequent edge flake removals or it could represent a remnant of the typical lateral side edge grinding found on finished points that has been subsequently flaked. If the former is the case, the biface would be unfinished but if it is the latter it may be due to an aborted attempt to rework or refurbish the biface for additional use.

Evaluation of Significance

It is hard to assign this point to a particular type because it is uncertain whether or not it is finished. In terms of its lanceolate outline shape lacking any suggestion of stemming or notching, its shallow basal concavity and the presence of basal thinning rather than fluting, this point resembles both Holcombe points (Fitting et al. 1966) and what have been called the "Hi-Ho" variant of the Hi-Lo type (Ellis 2004:64). Points such as this are generally attributed to the Late Paleo-Indian Period, *ca.* 10,400 to 10,000 BP (Deller and Ellis 1990:16). The thinning on one face, which sometimes approaches fluting, is seen in Holcombe point collections (e.g. Woodley 2004) but this point is somewhat thick for a Holcombe form and therefore more closely resembles a Hi-Lo form, points of that type being known for their substantial thickness. However, although most Holcombe points are quite thin, being under 5-6mm (Fitting et al. 1966:46), there is the odd thicker example such as a 7.5 mm specimen from the Fowler site (Woodley 2004: Table 6.5). Alternatively, since the point lateral grinding is light and intermittent, it may be unfinished and the item could be a preform. As such, it might have been more thinned before finishing if carried to a completed state, and might have been more extensively thinned at the base. In this case it could be a Holcombe preform or perhaps a preform for an even earlier style such as a Gainey or Crowfield fluted point. If it is unfinished then this

would also increase the likelihood this is an actual occupation site and not just the isolated loss of a point during use.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The points reported here, especially the Barnes and Gainey examples, add to our incrementally growing sample and distributional data on the Paleoindian occupations of southern Ontario. They also help to correct some biases in previous research. As several authors have discussed (e.g. Jackson 1990), a major focus of Paleoindian research projects has been on finding sites and materials on what were, in Paleoindian times, active pro-glacial lake shorelines, and less attention has been paid to "interior" areas away from those shorelines. In contrast, all the sites and finds reported here are in the interior areas and some of them represent sites or artifact finds that previous research has suggested are quite rare in those interior areas and in some cases the only examples of certain types from particular areas.

The Barnes points from Hanlon Creek 12a and the Gosling site are significant in that they represent the only two known points of that type from Wellington County. In addition, the Gosling site, which was included in the totals reported by Ellis and Deller in their 1997 summary, represents one of only four definitive Barnes (Parkhill Phase) sites or findspots reported in the interior of all of southern Ontario (see Table 1). The proximity of the Hanlon Creek 12a and the Gosling site further suggests that they could form the nucleus of a more substantial cluster of Early Paleoindian sites in the southern portion of the City of Guelph. While the presence of these interior sites and isolated findspots is notable, these finds do not necessarily change the overall percentages of sites of that time period on shorelines versus the interior, as additional definitive or probable Parkhill Phase sites have also been reported through CRM projects since 1996 on the active shoreline of Lake Algonquin/Ardtrea near modern Lake Simcoe north of Toronto (e.g. Archaeologix Inc. 2004; Woodley 2001)

Table 1: Summary Metrical Characteristics

Specimen	Type	Length	Width	Thick-ness	Concavity Depth	Face- Angle		Basal Width
						L	R	
AiHb-189	Barnes	(22.6)	(22.0)	4.4	3.6	97	99	17.0
AiHb-294	Barnes	(35.0)	(25.2)	5.3	4.7	97	98	18.0
AfHa-249	Gainey?	(55.3)	34.5	7.5	NR	NR	NR	NR
AlGs-281	Holcombe/ Hi-Lo preform?	70.5	32.0	8.0	3.5	NR	NR	26.5

( ) indicates an incomplete measurement

Both the Barnes points reported here, and apparently the whole Gosling assemblage including the unifaces and flaking debris, are made on Onondaga chert from outcrops near Lake Erie. The Gosling site actually represents the only known Ontario Parkhill Phase (Barnes) site made predominantly on that material. The other known sites are dominated by Fossil Hill or Collingwood chert (see Storck and von Bitter 1989) from just south of modern Georgian Bay. These include sites extending across the northernmost part of southern Ontario from the Collingwood chert source area near modern Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe in the east to areas north and west of London, some 200 km from the chert sources. It is plausible with the

Wellington County data reported here to suggest that Parkhill Phase peoples in other more southeasterly areas of Ontario actually focussed on different raw materials than Collingwood and overall exploited a different area of Ontario on annual rounds – areas that encompassed the Onondaga sources near modern Lake Erie. Moreover, in trying to locate Paleoindian sites, archaeologists have often relied on raw material identifications. For example, while Parkhill Phase Paleoindians often relied on the very exotic Fossil Hill chert in the areas west of London, later groups in those same areas did not. Hence, sites are often initially identified by that raw material and then the sites are targeted for additional surface collection to confirm their Paleoindian affiliation through the recovery of diagnostics like fluted points. Obviously this will create a bias in what sites are recognized and it may be there are many more sites like Gosling that might be overlooked because they are using Onondaga chert. It could be, for example, that there are large numbers of interior sites in areas such as Wellington County representing the Parkhill Phase but they are not easily recognized due to the fact the raw materials used are no different than those on many other later sites in that same area, namely Onondaga. Finally, it is notable that amongst the artifacts from Gosling there are forms such as *pièces esquillées* (see MacDonald 1968). Deller and Ellis (1992a:129) suggested these are rare to non-existent on Parkhill (Barnes) Phase sites in comparison to presumably earlier sites of the Gainey Phase. The Gosling example actually represents the most clear cut example of the type ever reported from a Parkhill Phase Ontario site. It is possible that the rarity of this tool form on sites reported to date is due to the fact their use was more common on interior sites than in the shoreline sites that have been the focus of research. Use may have even been seasonal if the rare interior sites represent a different season of use, as argued by Deller and Ellis (1992b)

Table 2: Frequency of Paleo-Indian Sites by Phase, Southern Ontario*

Phase	Frequency			Strandline		Interior	
	No.	Percent		No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Gainey	12	34.29		4	33.33	8	66.67
Parkhill (Barnes)	16	45.71		12	75.00	4	25.00
Crowfield	7	20.00		4	57.14	3	42.86
Total	**35**	**100.00**		**20**	**57.14**	**15**	**42.86**

* after Ellis and Deller 1997: Table 3.

The presence of an apparent Gainey point at the Prism 57 site is, in contrast to the Barnes data, consistent with previous knowledge of these items. Although the placement of lake levels in the Erie basin in this time frame is much debated (see Jackson et al. 2000:428-429), the find appears to not be on a strandline and more "interior." As can be seen on Table 2, which summarizes site data, Gainey sites do seem more common in interior areas. Also, as noted, the Prism example seems to be on an exotic chert, probably from outside the province, and Gainey points in Ontario are more often on such exotics, especially on Ohio sources (Ellis and Deller 1997). Ellis and Deller (1997:11) also noted 36 early Paleo-Indian point findspots (Gainey = 22; Parkhill (Barnes) = 8; and Crowfield = 6) in Southern Ontario. In sum, Gainey points are the most commonly reported of such isolated points, so the Prism example is not unexpected. The addition of the other finds reported here, along with the new finds not counted by Ellis and Deller (1997) but since reported in the Kewa (Issue 00[6]), changes the frequency of findspots only slightly, with Gainey point frequency dropping from 61.1% to 54.8% (Gainey = 23; Barnes = 9; Crowfield = 9).

As for the Stratos point, the uncertainty of identification beyond the fact it is clearly a concave-based Paleoindian point or preform makes any additional statements highly conjectural. If it is a Holcombe or potentially early Hi-Lo ("Hi-Ho") point, the fact it is on Collingwood chert may seem unusual since, based on previous published syntheses (Deller 1989: Table 8.4), no items on that material had been reported. However, as was the case with the Gosling and Hanlon Creek 12a Barnes Onondaga finds, the use of a different material versus the sources documented in earlier studies might reflect biases in the geographic locations from which previous points have been reported. Most previous reported Holcombe/Hi-Lo finds have been from southwestern Ontario, whereas Stratos is located to the north of Lake Ontario, farther to the east. Use of Collingwood may be more common in more easterly areas and in fact, the Fowler Holcombe site located north of Toronto near Lake Simcoe, also more easterly in Ontario, has an a point on Collingwood (Woodley 2004), albeit one which differs somewhat from the more typical Holcombe points at the site on Onondaga. However, Hi-Lo points on Collingwood appear to be rare to non-existent. If the Stratos point is an unfinished Gainey point, instead of one of the Late Paleoindian forms or a preform for a Crowfield point, the use of Collingwood would not be surprising, as several Gainey points on that material are known (e.g. Deller 1989: Table 8.4). Moreover, the somewhat "interior" location of the find would also not be unexpected given the dominance of Gainey sites in such areas, as discussed above.

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SALVAGE EXCAVATION OF TWO BURIALS AT ST. JOHN-IN-THE-WILDERNESS CHURCH, BRIGHT'S GROVE, ONTARIO

Hope Kron, Lisa Paulaharju, and Jennifer Sharman

INTRODUCTION

Early on the morning of Saturday, November 19, 2005, we arrived at St. John-in-the-Wilderness Church in Bright's Grove near Sarnia. The purpose of our visit was to assist in exhuming two graves for reburial, in order to see if we could help identify the individuals. We were given a list of individuals that were buried in that portion of cemetery; however, Rev. Robert Lemon informed us that not all individuals interred in that area were on that list. The graves were located beside the church hall where an extension to the building was proposed for construction. As per the Cemeteries Act (Revised), a prior archaeological investigation had been conducted in

October 2005 by Ed Eastaugh of Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants. This investigation showed the presence of the two graves and verified the presence of human remains within them. The report established that the burials were of Christian affiliation and dated to the late 19th century.

Our involvement came about from a request from Dr. Michael Spence, who had been contacted by one of the Church wardens to see about involving graduate students from the bioarchaeology program at the University of Western Ontario in the process. We were keen to assist, and gladly took on the opportunity for further field experience. We were informed that we would have one day to glean as much information from the excavation as possible.

We began our part of the procedure after the greater part of the dirt from the graves was removed with a backhoe. The matrix was composed of very wet, heavy clay. We all descended into the hole to figure out how to tackle the unexpected conditions. There was still a great deal of wet clay on the lids of the coffins, so trowelling was obviously useless. Fortunately, Rev. Robert Lemon and members of his congregation were eager to help. They shoveled the excess clay, and we were able to remove the plywood left by Ed Eastaugh to protect the coffins.

However, another problem quickly became apparent: water was seeping into the graves at a fairly fast and steady rate. Dan DiCocco, the back-hoe operator, dug a sump-hole to alleviate the problem, but still the water came. Since we had spent a great deal of time just reaching the remains and dealing with the water, the morning was soon gone. We had managed to remove some items from the south grave, including part of the skeleton and some coffin hardware. Much time was used in searching through wads of clay with our hands, not wanting to miss anything.

After lunch, we went back to work, realizing that trying to get these individuals reburied by the end of the day would be a much greater challenge than initially anticipated. We worked as carefully as we could whilst picking up the pace. The cold, wet conditions were taking their toll on us.

As daylight waned, we were required to work even more quickly, but we managed to get most of the skeletal elements out of the graves. Most of the smaller bones of the hands and feet were not recovered due to the difficulties in excavating because of the wet clay. Preservation of the remains was not optimal, and the bones were stained nearly black. However, after washing and examining what we had, we were able to make some estimates regarding these people.

SKELETAL REMAINS

Two burials were excavated, each containing fragmentary remains of one individual. Due to the wet burial environment, preservation of the skeletal remains was poor. Furthermore, due to the high water table, it was impossible to take *in situ* photographs of the remains. Sex determination was done using primarily the Phenice method (Phenice 1969), with the addition of observation of the sciatic notch of the pelvis where possible. Due to the poor preservation of the rest of the skeletal material, age estimation was based primarily on cranial suture closure and observation of arthritic development.

The south burial contained a male individual, over 50 years old. The remains included most of the calvarium with fragments of facial bones and fragmentary post-cranial remains. Cranial sutures were nearly obliterated due to the relatively old age of the individual. The foramen magnum area was missing. No teeth were recovered. The cranium was damaged, possibly by a portion of the coffin that had collapsed on top of the head. This individual displayed prominent muscle attachments on long bones.

The north burial contained a male individual, also over 50 years old. The remains included skull fragments, a fragmentary edentulous mandible, and fragmentary post-cranial remains. No teeth were recovered. Advanced bone resorption on the mandible indicates that teeth were lost sometime before death. Arthritic lipping was observed on some joint surfaces, including the phalanges and radial head.

COFFIN HARDWARE

Coffin hardware was found in the south burial. The shape of the coffin was hexagonal, also referred to as "pinch toe". The coffin lid contained an oval glass viewing window. Fragmented glass was recovered. A rectangular plaque with rounded ends was recovered with no discernible writing. The hardware recovered included short bar coffin handles, one metal end of the short bar, caplifters, escutcheons and possibly some coffin studs. The coffin itself was partially disintegrated due to water damage, although the outline could be clearly discerned. This coffin is similar in shape and hardware to the coffin in Burial 7 in the Harvie family cemetery in Galt, Ontario (Woodley 1991). In fact, the coffin handle recovered from the south burial is nearly identical to that of Burial 7, which contained Mary Harvie who was interred in 1894 at the age of 99 (Woodley 1991: 47).

The short bar coffin handles consist of backing plates along with the arms that hold the bar. The bar is typically wood or metal, or a combination of the two, capped by decorative ends (Kogon and Mayer 1995; Woodley 1991). Caplifters are decorative metal pieces that assist in the opening and closing of the lid. Escutcheons are small, flat, decorative metal plates, containing a hole in the middle for caplifters or thumbscrews for attachment to the lid. Coffin studs are inexpensive metal decorative elements.

The north burial contained a rectangular coffin. As with the south burial, the wood of the coffin was somewhat disintegrated, but the outline could be seen easily. This burial lacked hardware.

DISCUSSION

According to Kogon and Mayer (1995), hexagonal coffins were in use prior to 1900, coffin studs were in use post-1870, and escutcheons were in use post-1871. Both glass viewing windows and short bar coffin handles were in use post-1878, and caplifters were in use post-1881. Therefore, based on the shape of the coffin and the hardware present, the time period of the south burial can be estimated to be between approximately 1881 and 1900. However, since this analysis was performed on other cemeteries in Ontario, it is possible that the date range varies slightly in different locations. The individual that most closely matches this date is David Ferguson, who died in 1875 at 66.5 years of age. However, since information for all burials in the cemetery is

not available, it is possible that the remains from the south grave belong to an individual for whom no information is available.

As the north grave contained no coffin hardware, it is harder to estimate the date for this burial. Based on the coffin shape, it can be said that this burial dates after 1850 (Kogon and Mayer 1995). Aside from David Ferguson, there are two individuals that fit this date: Joseph Sproule and Robert Byers. Unfortunately, no age is provided for either of them. However, the inscriptions on their graves provide some further insight. The inscription on Robert Byers' grave reads "Son of James and Elizabeth," suggesting the possibility that Robert was a child when he died. Joseph Sproule's inscription indicates that he was a native of Tyrone, Ireland. This makes it more likely that he was an older individual, who moved to Canada from another country. Therefore, given that the age of the skeletal remains is over 50, it is more likely that these remains are that of Joseph Sproule. However, with no further information, this is impossible to determine with certainty, and it is again possible that the individual in the north grave was not included in the records.

There is some debate as to whether or not status can be inferred based on coffin shape and hardware; however, because these particular graves are from the transition period in coffin style, no definitive conclusions can be made. Woodley (1991:48) suggests that there is no clear relationship between the presence or absence of coffin hardware and status.

CONCLUSION

The excavation finished necessarily as the sun set. In accordance with the Reverend's request, the remains were reburied in a new location following this. While more time would have been beneficial to document our analysis more thoroughly, this was not possible due to the unexpected working conditions.

Despite poor preservation of skeletal remains, the analysis was carried out to the best of our abilities. In the future, such salvage excavations would benefit from more information on historic Ontario burial customs and coffin hardware. The work of Woodley (1991) and Kogon and Mayer (1995) was extremely helpful, but as differences might be found between cemeteries in terms of coffin hardware, more studies of this kind should be undertaken. This excavation was a modest step in this direction.

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CHAPTER NEWS

We hope that everyone enjoyed the annual OAS meeting that we hosted in London in late October at the Lamplighter Inn. The programme was quite varied and interesting, the sessions well-attended (over 200 registrants) and the banquet had one of the best food spreads in living banquet memory. Thanks go to all the OAS member and students who volunteered their time on audio-visual, in the book room and at the registration desk, and of course a big thanks to the organizing committee for taking time the time to put these meetings together in the first place (Nancy deserves a special Thank You!!!!):

Symposium Organizing Committee

Nancy Van Sas (Committee Chair & Facilities Organizer)
Darcy Fallon
Chris Ellis (Programme Convenor)
Lindsay Foreman (Registration)
Jim Keron (Publicity and Finances)
Larry Messenger
Steve Timmermans (Publicity)

We are sorry for the delay of this Kewa but the old problem of a lack of article submission has once again reared its ugly head. Combined with the time commitments for the symposium we are farther behind than normal...we do have some other articles we are preparing for future issues but to get caught up we really need to get some more!! So sharpen your pencils and get those papers coming in! The frequent delays in Kewa production means it is hard to get advance notice of meetings to our membership. However, we remind everyone that we post notices of upcoming meeting and events on our website as soon as details are known:

www.ssc.uwo.ca/assoc/oas/misc/events.html.

Also, if you have any queries about upcoming meetings feel free to contact Chris Ellis (cjellis@uwo.ca). Chris would, as always, like to make our February meeting Members Night with several short presentations. If anyone would like to do a member's night presentation please contact Chris ASAP.